



No.	AUTHOR: Gary Langell, Private Lands Program Manager	Date
	TITLE: Results of 2002-2003 Game Bird Habitat Cost-Share Program	
861		6/23/04

The Game Bird Habitat Program was the result of legislation passed by the 1979 State Legislature. No person may hunt, or take any game bird within the state without first procuring a Game Bird Habitat Restoration Stamp from the Department. Birds classified as game birds include ruffed grouse, wild turkey, quail, and pheasant. Price of the stamp is \$6.75. The Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund was established as a dedicated fund. Monies in the fund may be used exclusively for the purpose of restoring the habitat of game birds in the state. The Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund is supported by the sales of the Game Bird Habitat Stamp, with additional funds coming from \$40.00 for each non-resident deer license sold and \$4.00 for each non-resident hunting license sold. These funds are initially collected and placed in the Fish and Wildlife Fund and then transferred to the Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund upon a complete tally of all license types sold.

#### **Game Bird Habitat Development Program**

Part of the emphasis of the Game Bird Program is to develop, or improve wildlife habitat on private land. Landowners are provided monetary compensation for habitat improvements made. Sites must be a minimum size of 5 acres and a maximum of 40 acres. Monetary compensation shall not exceed \$100 per acre, per year. Each contract may provide that the site be open for regulated public game bird hunting.

For the 2002-2003 fiscal year, no funds were transferred to the Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund. As a result, no game bird habitat cost-share projects were developed on private lands using Game Bird Habitat Restoration funds.

#### **Game Bird Partnership Program**

Beginning in 1995-1996, \$30,000 of Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund money was designated for use on "Partnership Grants". Under the Game Bird Partnership Program, Private Lands Biologists would write habitat improvement projects in conjunction with the National Wild Turkey Federation, Pheasants Forever, or Quail Unlimited. The conservation organization would put up 50% of the project cost with the Division of Fish and Wildlife putting up 50% of the project cost, not to exceed \$100 per acre.

Since no funds were transferred to the Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund, the Division decided to pay for Game Bird Partnership projects through the Fish and Wildlife Fund. During the 2002-03 fiscal year, a total of 30 game bird development projects valued at \$33,657.17 were completed. Landowners contributed \$7,330.01 toward the projects, with conservation organizations and the Division of Fish and Wildlife contributing \$13,190.16 and \$13,137.00, respectively. Table 1 summarizes the game bird habitat improvement projects.

<b>Table 1. Game Bird Partnership Projects 2002-2003</b>	
<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Acres Developed</b>
Warm Season Grass Establishment	229.60
Cool Season Grass Establishment	4.80
Legume Plantings	9.90
Tree and Shrub Plantings	13.30
Fescue Eradication	0.00
Fallowing	10.90
Woodland Edge Enhancement	0.00
Prescribed Burning	0.00

### Land Acquisition

Game Bird Habitat Restoration Funds are also utilized to purchase game bird habitat. Table 2 summarizes the Division's land acquisitions utilizing Game Bird Habitat Restoration Funds since 1990.

<b>Table 2. Game Bird Fund Acquisitions 1990-2003</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Acreage</b>
1990	Cedar Swamp	Steuben	292
1990	Vinegar Hill	Benton	106
1991	Pine Creek Bottoms	Benton	702
1992	Donahue	Newton	80
1992	Greenwood Ditch	Benton	23
1992	Hardin Ridge <sup>1</sup>	Floyd	1200
1993	Jefvert	Benton	58
1994	Geswein	Benton	80
1994	Vinyard	White	100
1994	Durrey	Benton	10.25
1994	Miller	Carroll	76
1995	Cartnell	White	150
1995	Watland	Benton	145
1995	Hillenbrand	Greene	3,434
1997	Splinter Ridge FWA	Jefferson/Switzerland	2,531
1998	Starr	Randolph	125
1998	Stocksdale	Randolph	140
1998	Truchan/Qualizza	Jasper	40
1998	Northcutt	Randolph	66
1998	Moynihan	Benton	106
1998	Kirsch	Benton	158
1999	Brandat	Newton	122
1999	Flora	White	40
2000	Leeka	Randolph	88
2000	Splinter Ridge	Jefferson/Switzerland	40
2001	Blue Grass FWA	Warrick	2,532
2001	Kingsbury	LaPorte	800
<b>Totals:</b>			<b>13,244.25</b>

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